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RELEASED IN PART B1,1.4(D)

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ACTION: NONE

INFO: FILE, STATDICT (2/W)

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMB FRASURE

EUR FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE

E.O. 12356:DECL: 6/06/05  
TAGS: PREL, SR, BK

Classification Extended on : 03/19/2013 ~ Class: SECRET ~ Authority: DSCG  
11-1 ~  Declassify on: 06/04/2020

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH DAVID OWEN -- F-16 PILOT,  
HOSTAGES, AND THE BOSNIA RECOGNITION PACKAGE

1. SECRET - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. THE CHARGE AND I MET LATE THIS EVENING WITH DAVID  
OWEN WHO HAS JUST COME FROM A FAREWELL DINNER WITH  
MILOSEVIC. OWEN PASSED ALONG INFORMATION ON THREE  
POINTS, ON BEHALF OF MILOSEVIC IN MY VIEW.

3. F-16 PILOT. MILOSEVIC HAD BEEN IN TOUCH EARLIER IN  
THE DAY WITH THE BSA GENERAL IN COMMAND IN BANJA LUKA  
WHO REPORTED THAT THE BOSNIAN SERBS BELIEVE THE PILOT IS  
ALIVE AND ON THE RUN SOMEWHERE IN BOSNIAN SERB  
TERRITORY. THE GENERAL REPORTED THAT A USED PARACHUTE  
HAD BEEN FOUND ALONG WITH SOME PERSONAL EQUIPMENT NEARBY  
WHICH SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN ABANDONED TO LIGHTEN A LOAD.  
BSA TROOPS ARE SEARCHING FOR THE PILOT AND WILL TREAT  
HIM PROPERLY IF THEY FIND HIM. THE GENERAL EXPRESSED

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REVIEW AUTHORITY: Robert Homme, Senior Reviewer

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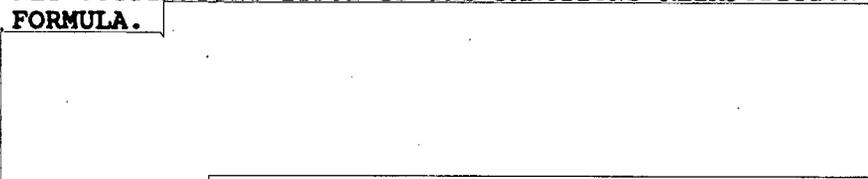
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CONCERN, HOWEVER, THAT HE MIGHT BE FOUND FIRST BY SERB CIVILIANS AND DEALT WITH HARSHLY.

4. HOSTAGES. OWEN SAID THAT INTELLIGENCE CHIEF STANISIC IS IN PALE TRYING TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF A SECOND GROUP OF UN HOSTAGES. MILOSEVIC SAID THE PALE SERBS MAY GIVE UP EIGHTY OR NINETY; HE WANTS AT LEAST A HUNDRED. OWEN (PRESUMABLY ECHOING MILOSEVIC'S VIEWS) SAID THE NEGOTIATION WILL GET TOUGH WHEN THE NUMBERS GET DOWN TO FIFTY OR SO. KARADZIC CAN BE EXPECTED TO HOLD ON TO A CERTAIN NUMBER AS PROTECTION AGAINST AIRSTRIKES AND AS LEVERAGE VIS A VIS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UN AND THE CONTACT GROUP. [OWEN REMARKED THAT MILOSEVIC WAS CLEARLY UNHAPPY ABOUT THE FACT THAT THE GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER WAS IN PALE, POTENTIALLY HORNING IN ON HIS POSSIBLE HOSTAGE RELEASE GLORY.]

5. BOSNIA RECOGNITION PACKAGE. [OWEN SAID THAT, DESPITE OUR DIFFERENCES OF OPINION LAST WEEK, MILOSEVIC REALLY IS INTERESTED IN REACHING AN AGREEMENT ON THE PACKAGE. (OWEN SAID THAT PERSONALLY HE THOUGHT IT WAS THE ONLY WAY OUT OF THE BOSNIA MESS.) OWEN SAID THAT FOR MILOSEVIC THE KEY OUTSTANDING ISSUE IS THE SANCTIONS REIMPOSITION FORMULA.



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I TOLD HIM IT IS A TOUGH ISSUE. WE HAVE OUR REQUIREMENTS AS WELL, NOTABLY A CREDIBLE SANCTIONS REIMPOSITION FORMULA THAT CAN BE DEFENDED IN WASHINGTON AND ELSEWHERE. OWEN URGED ME TO PUSH AHEAD ON THE ISSUE AND PREDICTED THAT BOSNIA IS LIKELY TO BE A LIVELY TOPIC AT HALIFAX.

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COMMENT

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6.

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HOWEVER, HE AND I HAVE HAD A FAIRLY AMICABLE  
PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP DATING BACK TO SOUTHERN  
AFRICA DAYS IN THE 1980'S, AND I AM FAIRLY  
CONFIDENT THAT THE POINTS ABOVE ARE FACTUALLY  
ACCURATE AND WERE PASSED ALONG WITH MILOSEVIC'S  
APPROVAL. PERINA

END OF MESSAGE

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